

***The Military Family:
Family Readiness and Awareness***

**What You Can
Do!**

**Intent of this presentation
is. . .**

**To strengthen the sense of security and
unity**

**within the local Fort Gordon community
by showing how YOU can participate in
and contribute to local force protection
efforts.**

Target Audience for this presentation are ALL

- **Soldiers**
- **Civilian Employees**
- **Families**
- **Retirees**

Key Messages

- **The Military Family is a Force Protection Asset.**
- **Awareness and knowledge empower the individual to help protect the soldier, the family, the Fort Gordon and civilian community.**
- **Force protection is everybody's business.**
- **All members of the Fort Gordon**

What can I do? How can I help?

(questions we've all asked since 11

- **Be aware**
- **Know what to do**
- **Know who to call**

The Military Family: a Force Protection Asset

- Can observe, question, report and act**
- Is ready, resolute and resilient**

Operations Security or
OPSEC
IS
A FAMILY MATTER

What you know could be useful to an enemy

- **Private information - personal information that could allow you to become a terrorist's target, e.g. your home address, children's school**
- **Sensitive information - information about the spouse's specific job, TDY plans, unusually long work hours**
- **Critical military information - information that deals with specific facts about the mission, capabilities,**

How do you practice

OPSEC?

- Be wary where, how, what and with whom you talk
- Do not discuss sensitive information outside the immediate family; especially over the phone, including cellular and cordless
- Think puzzle pieces. Remember insignificant bits of information, when put together, can become significant
- If anyone approaches you or persistently seeks information, tell your military member immediately. Or contact the 5C

Observe and report the ***questionable, unusual or suspicious:***

- **activity**
- **questions or requests for information related to capabilities, limitations or operations**
- **vehicles in or around the installation**
- **phone calls, messages or emails**
- **contacts on or off post**
- **aerial activity near or around the installation**

**Call the Fort Gordon Military
Police:**

(706) 791-4380 or 911

ANTHRAX

Media are reporting on suspicious packages possibly containing anthrax bacteria. Most have tested negative for bacteria and are most likely hoaxes inspired by news coverage.

Nevertheless, these incidents have understandably caused much concern.

What is Anthrax:

- Anthrax is a bacterial disease caused by bacillus anthracis, a very stable spore that may remain viable for many years in soil and water.**
- Anthrax normally occurs in domesticated and wild animals, including goats, sheep, cattle, horses and deer.**
- A disease from animals, anthrax is also communicable to human beings, although once infected human is not contagious.**

Anthrax can infect humans in one of three ways:

- **Cutaneous anthrax (“skin” anthrax)**
 - **Gastrointestinal anthrax**
 - **Inhalation anthrax**

Cutaneous anthrax, also known as "skin" anthrax:

- Contracted by handling contaminated hair, wool, hides, flesh, blood, or excreta of infected animals, and manufactured products such as bone meal.**
- Infection introduced through scratches, abrasions, or wounds of the skin.**
- Symptoms in the mildest form include itching, rash, and possibly sores near the site of infection.**
- Fatal in less than 1% of cases, with treatment.**

Gastrointestinal anthrax:

- **Contracted by orally ingesting anthrax spores, usually by eating insufficiently cooked infected meat.**
- **Symptoms include abdominal discomfort followed by high fever.**
- **Infection unlikely from contaminated packages**

Inhalation anthrax:

- Contracted by inhaling spores directly into the lungs. Normally occurs among workers handling infected animal hides, wool and furs.**
- Most lethal form. After inhalation, course involves 1-7 days of incubation (no symptoms) followed by 2-4 days of mild symptoms of sore throat, low fever, muscle aches and malaise. After this time frame, these symptoms will progress to severe breathing problems, shock and death.**
- May possibly contract from a contaminated package. However, in most cases some method of aerosolizing the anthrax spores is**

Treatment of Anthrax

- A regimen of antibiotics begun one day after exposure has been shown in animal testing to provide significant protection against death.
- Ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, or amoxicillin are effective against most strains of anthrax. Penicillin is indicated for hospitalized patients for which lab tests have been done.
- Inhalation anthrax is fatal, if untreated. If prescribed antibiotics by a physician, it is extremely important to take them as prescribed

SUSPICIOUS MAIL

Due to recent discoveries of biologically contaminated mail packages, the following information is intended to assist in the safe and effective handling of incoming mail both at work and at home.

What would suspicious mail look like?

- Unexpected or from someone you don't know**
- No return address or one that can't be verified as legitimate**
- Mismatch between return address and city or state in the postmark**
- Addressed incorrectly or to someone no longer at the address**
- Handwritten or poorly typed addressed**

(Suspicious Mail cont'd:)

- **Excessive postage**
- **Unusual weight, given its size**
- **Lopsided or oddly shaped**
- **Unprofessional wrapping with several combinations of tape**
- **Protruding wires, strange odors or stains**
- **Marked with restrictive endorsements, such as personal or confidential**
- **Marked with special endorsements, such**

If you receive a suspicious parcel in the mail:

- Do not handle the piece of mail**
- Keep family members away from the immediate area**
- Immediately call the military police or local law enforcement**

If you've already handled it:

- Place it in a plastic bag**
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water. Shower with soap and water, as soon as practical.**
- List all people who have touched the letter or parcel, include contact information. Provide list to responding law enforcement.**
- Place all items worn when in contact with the suspected mail piece in plastic bags. Keep them wherever you change your clothes and give to law enforcement agents.**
- Take prescribed medication until otherwise instructed or until it runs out.**

If the parcel contains a powder or if powder spills onto a surface:

- Do not try to clean up the powder. Cover the spilled contents immediately with anything (e.g., clothing, paper, trash can, etc.) and do not remove this cover!**
- Then leave the room and close the door, or section off the area to prevent others from entering (i.e., keep others away).**
- Wash your hands with soap and water**

And Again:

Immediately call

**The Fort Gordon Military
Police**

(706) 791-4380 or 911